



JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER



Summer Worship

Don't Forget to Worship

The summer months are a great time to get away and enjoy our weekends with the nice weather, vacations and longer days. We need the summer weeks to refresh and renew us, but don't forget that the best renewal comes in worship as we celebrate the season of Pentecost in the church. This is the longest season of the church year (June through November) and is also one of the most important because our lessons speak of living in the Spirit. If you are in town, remember to worship, and if you are out of town, try visiting another congregation and enjoy the variety of worship in God's Church. And if you know you will be gone on the weekend, please join us for worship on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

June 3 – (Mark 2:23—3:6) – **Pentecost 2** Doing the work of God on the Sabbath
Guest preacher: Ade Pedersen (former CTS member and lay preacher)

June 10 – (Mark 3:20-35) – **Pentecost 3** Doing the work of God
Confirmation Milestone for Confirmation Camp

June 17 – (Mark 4:26-34) – **Pentecost 4** The parable of the mustard seed
First Communion Milestone

June 24 – (Mark 4:35-41) – **Pentecost 5** Christ calming the sea

July 1 – (Mark 5:21-43) – **Pentecost 6** Christ heals a woman and Jairus' daughter

Worship on Wednesday

6:30 p.m. during June, July and August

While Wednesday Night Alive takes a break during the summer (no meals will be served), our worship service will continue, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Each service will include communion and a time to gather afterwards (coffee, refreshments and fellowship). The service and messages will be different than Sunday mornings. Whether you are out of town on the weekend or are looking for a spiritual lift during the week, please join us on Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary for a time of worship and reflection.

Pastor Stephen J. Lund

1100 East Benjamin Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701
Office hours 8:30-4:30 Mon-Thur, 8:30-12:30 Fri
Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

402.379-1775
christtheservant@cableone.net
Sunday school at 9:00 for all ages

During the summer months we will be looking at the book of Acts under three different themes: (1) **June**: The Church in Jerusalem: God's Vision for His Church, (2) **July**: Satan's Counterattack to God's Church, and (3) **August**: Foundations for World Missions.

During the month of June we will look at the marks of the early church as the earliest believers gathered in Jerusalem. What did they devote themselves to do and be? What are the marks of a living Church? How many of these marks are we devoted to as the body of Christ at Christ the Servant? Join us weekly and find out!

This Month: God's Vision for His Church

June 6 – A Living Church is a Learning Church (**STUDY**)

June 13 – A Living Church is a Church That Shares IN and OUT (**FELLOWSHIP**)

June 20 – A Living Church is a Worshiping Church That is Both Joyful and Reverent (**WORSHIP**)

June 27 – A Living Church is Committed to Missions (**EVANGELISM**)

Adult Sunday School

8:30 a.m. July and August

“Life-Changing Prayer: Approaching the Throne of Grace”

During the summer months of July and August, I am inviting the entire congregation to join me in the fellowship hall for six sessions called “**Life-Changing Prayer: Approaching the Throne of Grace.**” This class with Pastor Steve will be a DVD Bible study led by Pastor Jim Cymbal of Brooklyn Tabernacle Church in New York City. Pastor Cymbal has seen incredible things happen when a congregation gathers and commits itself to prayer. In this Bible study he shares his story and insight of the power of prayer. His Tuesday night prayer service is the most powerful service of the week. I would like to share his story and, more importantly, the power of prayer with you during the months of July and August.

His study is based on Hebrews 4:16 where we are told that we can always “approach God's throne of grace with confidence” knowing that you will “receive mercy and find grace” to help you in your time of need. We will start promptly at 8:30 a.m. so that we have plenty of time to learn, listen and discuss each weekly topic. We will meet until 9:45 (75 minutes). Each person will have their own study guide (sign up by June 24 so books can be ordered). Our weekly format will be: Opening Reflection, Icebreaker Question; Video Teaching (24 minutes); Group Discussion; Closing Prayer with Between-Sessions Personal Study Time. We will miss one Sunday as I will be on vacation. Dates and topics will be:

July 8 – Throne of Grace

July 15 – Receiving Mercy

July 22 – NO CLASS (Pastor Steve on vacation)

July 29 – Perfect Peace from God

August 5 – Praying with Faith (Develop Your Life)

August 12 – God Brings the Answer (Encourage Your Life)

August 19 – The Church that Prays Together (Choose Your Life)

Pastor Steve's Letter: "Living with the Spirit's Guidance"

For some reason God has been placing the Holy Spirit upon my mind ever since Easter Sunday (April 1). On that first Easter, when Jesus first appeared to His disciples after He had risen from the dead, He spoke these words of peace to them: "Peace be with you!" And then Jesus did a remarkable act next. "And with that He breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" (John 20:22) Why? Jesus knew that His disciples would return to their old life when He ascended into heaven unless they received the Holy Spirit. And sure enough, the disciples went back to fishing fish until Jesus appeared to them again and reminded them of the same words He told them on that first Easter: "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21) Jesus had told His disciples when He first called them three years earlier: "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." (Luke 5:10) And the only way that would happen is if the disciples would receive the power of the Holy Spirit (which they did on the day of Pentecost – Acts 2).

Sometimes I wish that I could have been there, knowing the power of the Holy Spirit with the sound of a mighty wind, the tongue of fire upon my head, and the ability to speak in another language. And yet God, in His almighty and all-knowing power, has chosen to give us the Holy Spirit through the water and the Word. So why isn't the power of the Holy Spirit more prevalent in our lives where we truly see the power of God at work in and through us? On Sunday, May 27, we sang the song "Days of Elijah" which is a revival song. In the second verse we are reminded that "these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in Your word and we are the laborers in the vineyard declaring the Word of the Lord." I am also reminded what Joe Rystrom told us during worship on May 6, that Jesus' first command to His disciples as He sent them out two by two was to PRAY: "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. PRAY to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field." (Luke 10:2)

The key to all God wants us to do and be is the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' final discourse (John 14-17), He told His disciples (and us): "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26) So there it is: knowing the words of Jesus and receiving the Holy Spirit.- So here is my summer challenge for all of us:

Read the gospel of John ALOUD

(Store in your mind the words of Jesus so that the Holy Spirit can remind you of these things Jesus said and His words will come to you IF you do.)

Read the following passage from Romans as your summer prayer

⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. (Romans 8:5-17)

Paul begins chapter eight of Romans by reminding us that "there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:1-2) But Christ also has "condemned sin in the flesh . . . so that we might not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." (Romans 8:4)

So this is the summer of renewal, refreshment, reading, receiving the Holy Spirit, and prayer. I wait with eager anticipation as to how the Holy Spirit will speak and work in and through us.

Seeking a life in tune with the Holy Spirit!

PASTORAL ACTS

Wedding of Brenda Yott and Jerry Beaudette
May 19, 2018

Funeral of Dorothy Monson
May 24, 2018

First Communion Milestone

June 17 during worship

Several young people at Christ the Servant have been meeting with Pastor Steve and one of their parents to discuss and understand the meaning of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We all met for three consecutive Sundays to discuss why we have sacraments, the meaning of the Passover meal for the Jews, how Jesus transformed Passover into the Lord's Supper, why we take bread and wine, and why and how we receive the Lord's Supper when it is offered to us in worship. Having completed this course, the following are ready and waiting with eager anticipation to receive their First Communion with their families and the church on Sunday, June 17: **Delilah Broders, Dylan Hall, Emilee Olson, Austin Wolfe, and Ethan Wolfe.** We will be observing this important day with our First Communion Milestone. The class will meet before June 17 and bake our communion bread for this Sunday.

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UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP and HOSPITALITY EVENTS

June 13th Bonfire before church with a meal; we will provide the main food and dessert. We would like others to bring sides or salads.

June 30: CTS 3rd Annual Boomfire. Meal, games and fellowship prior to Big Bang Boom. The meal will work like the Bonfire on the 13th.

July 4th: 4th of July Parade. We will have a trailer again this year and invite everyone to participate, young and old. Those who can't or would rather not walk but would like to join us are welcome to ride on the trailer. More details to come.

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CARD OF THANKS

I want to thank Pastor Steve for staying with my husband while I was in surgery and then his hospital visits later. It was good to have him there with us. I also want to thank everyone for prayers, calls, and offers of help if we needed anything. I also thank God for his mercy and care. *Sharon Boelman*

Thank you so much for the wonderful weekend. Thanks for your prayers and support. *Joe Rystrom*

Thank you all for your prayers and well-wishes. We would have never gotten through this without them! *Jerry and Linda Shaffer*

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to count offerings one Sunday each month (two teams of two). Contact the church office; training will be provided.

TANZANIA UPDATE

Bwana Jesu Asifiwe! Or in plain English - Jesus is Lord! Time is flashing before my eyes, and before I know it, I will be sitting on a plane and on my way to Tanzania once again. It has been a blessing being able to be a part of this partnership with Msaranga Mandaka and to be taken out of my comfort zone into a world and a people that I love so much. And as I said, as the days go by, the reality of going again is becoming more and more concrete. Tickets are booked, vaccinations have been received, visas are in hand, now all we have to do is climb a mountain....

Our preparations for this trip have been very different this year. For one, we are taking sixteen people, which is amazing! It will be a blessing to see others encounter a people and place that I love. And of course, this time we are preparing to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. This in itself is showing to be a huge commitment. There have been several times in the last couple weeks when I have stepped back and asked myself, 'What in the world am I doing? How can I climb 19,000 feet?'. We have been working on training our bodies in order to get there. We, the climbers, have been walking/biking several miles a day and working to strengthen our bodies in order to get to the top (and back down alive again 😊). And although this challenge just seems to grow the closer it gets, God has been reassuring me of His purpose and His strength. I have committed to a feat that seems quite daunting, but the reality is that what I will be facing for a week is nothing compared to what these kids and their families will face for a lifetime. This climb is not about me or my ability to do so, but it is about those for whom we climb.

This is why we climb. We climb because they can't. We climb because we are able to support those who are living out the gospel tangibly in the lives of these children. As I said earlier, all our preparations are rounding themselves out... All except preparing to climb and raising pledges of support for doing so. We still seek pledges of support per mile that we complete, all of which will be going directly to the center to support their mission and ministry. In the next several weeks, we will be speaking more about how to pledge towards the climb, and you may even see a backpack or hiking boot come out of the woodworks. Our hope is for people to partner with us in climbing so that we can partner with the center in their ministry. The next several weeks of my time, as well as that of the climbers, will be committed to getting physically ready for the mountain, or at least as ready as we can be. Miles upon miles will be walked, muscles will be made sore but stronger, and lots of sweat will be shed. But it is all for the sake of being one step closer to partnering with our brothers and sisters to spread the love of Christ. So from me, the one who is a bit terrified, but so excited to see God work and knowing He is the one who gives strength, be looking for how God is leading you to join us in this partnership too.

Many Blessings,
Emily Svitak

Joint Board Meeting
April 16, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Doug Witte, Richard Hillrichs, Wanda Muhs, Jan Puls, Steve Freese, Linda Cyboron, Deb Olson, Brian Anderson, Steve Jessen, Warren Bennett, Pastor Steve

Purpose: to review the proposed Constitution. Pastor opened the meeting with prayer.

At the last meeting we reviewed the constitution with the proposed revisions. Richard called for comments. Steve J. asked about Appendix A and bylaws; Doug stated the appendix has not been completed but will be done when the constitution is approved. Doug recommended we complete Appendix A before the congregation votes on the constitution. Appendix A is a list of ministry teams. Bylaws also need to be approved by the congregation, but this can be done separately. Richard stated that the new council will act on the bylaws. The nomination committee needs to start right away when the congregation gives its approval. Motion by Linda to approve this new constitution and recommend its adoption by the congregation, seconded by Brian. There being no further discussion, all voted in favor. Copies of the constitution will be mailed to the congregation, and Richard and Doug will write a letter of introduction. Motion by Jessen to adjourn, seconded by Warren.

Board of Administration

Present: Steve Freese, Doris Hoffart, Warren Bennett, Wanda Muhs, Jan Puls, Richard Hillrichs, Pat Witte

Richard called this meeting to order and Doris offered the opening prayer. Motion by Steve to approve the minutes of our last meeting, seconded by Warren. Doris offered two corrections: 1) Pat (not Doris) talked to the Pastor about calls, and 2) their committee sends anniversary (not birthday) cards. Minutes approved as corrected.

Property: Warren reported that the dishwasher is still not working properly, i.e., soap is not dissolving and sometimes it doesn't start. It is still under warranty. If it needs to be replaced, we should consider a commercial unit. He also reported that the new lawnmower is in at Greenline but hasn't been delivered yet, and suggested a collection basket to help offset the cost. Warren then asked about the pine tree in the fenced play area, which drops needles and cones all the time; should we consider removing it.

Wanda reported that work has begun on the front bathroom. She also reported that there has been no word yet from T&H drywall. She has talked to Susan, who will call Josh.

Richard arranged for the parsonage deck fund bank account to be closed Friday, April 20, with the balance (\$868.33) to be transferred to the general fund.

Kitchen remodel: Warren shared that they are considering purchasing a new refrigerator with the money given in memory of Judy Hayes; he will discuss this further with Jerry. Motion by Wanda to table this until our next meeting, seconded by Jan; motion carried. Motion by Jan to table discussion of the kitchen remodel until the new church council is in place, then discuss with the Kitchen Fundraising committee, seconded by Warren. Motion carried.

Stewardship: Doris reported that they will deliver invitations to our neighbors the week of the neighborhood welcome, which is set for April 29. They also hope to have a neighborhood picnic during blessing of the backpacks. Members who have been absent for six months will receive a postcard; Pat sent out 13 postcards today to absentees. Doris sends cards to those in nursing homes letting them know that we're praying for them.

Personnel: Steve reported that his committee met with Kathy and Pastor Steve on March 22. One suggestion is for Christ the Servant to have more of a social media presence. They will follow up with Kathy and Brian Anderson. There is a need for job descriptions for board members, so if you have one, please give Steve a copy.

Finance: Jan reported that as of March 28, there was \$35,282.43 in the checking account, \$11,136.68 in savings, and \$7,146.26 in the endowment account.

There being no further business, the next meeting will be May 21 at 6:30 p.m. Jan offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Steve. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Board of Spiritual Oversight
April 16, 2018

Present: Steve Jessen, Linda Cyboron, Deb Olson, Brian Anderson, Pastor Steve Lund, Doug Witte
Absent: none

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Steve Jessen.

Deb gave devotions based on a passage from Billy Graham's book entitled Hope and concluded with a prayer.

Pastor Steve lead devotions from Paul's book to the church at Ephesus. We focused on the month of March reading with scripture coming from Chapter 4 of Ephesians.

There was no Financial report to discuss as Christensen's hadn't completed their reconciliation of our church accounts.

Steve Jessen and Pastor gave an update on Youth activities. The Easter Breakfast and Service went well. A Service Project is being planned for Roger Young. Day Camp is planned for June 25-28. One planning meeting has been held and Steve is still looking for additional volunteers to help with this activity. If individuals are interested in helping, they can contact Steve or Warren Bennett. Social Media and Facebook will be used in advertising for this activity and also for notifying past participants of this year's dates. A special "arts" project is being planned by several of our current CTS youth. The next meeting of the committee planning for this activity will be April 25th at 8:00 a.m. at Steve Jessen's business.

The Okoboji Bible Camp re-charge for grades 4 on up has been rescheduled for April 27th-29th.

Pastor Steve shared his written report which was received by the Spiritual Oversight Board at tonight's meeting. He highlighted his adult Sunday school activities and classes. These are also addressed in his June newsletter. Pastor also shared his planned vacation dates and times: June 30-July 4 and July 19-24. If these dates include any Sundays, Pastor will first attempt to find an LCMC minister, or a retired minister to fill the pulpit in his absence. It is realized, that this action will require payment for their services as well as mileage for those individuals filling the pulpit on those Sundays. First communion classes are scheduled for April 22,29 and May 4. The Senior Dinner will be held in May and quilts will be given to our two graduating seniors on Sunday, May 20th. He also shared that we have NO students being confirmed this year.

Linda shared that May 5 and 6 is Mission Week-end. Joe Rystrom will be with us and on the 5th at 6:30 p.m. he will be speaking on "Hearing God's Voice" at CTS. Dessert and Coffee will be served as a part of this presentation- all are invited to attend and this activity will be opened up to interested churches as well. Joe will also be speaking at our Sunday Service on May 6th. Our quarterly "Potluck" dinner will be held on this date rather than on the 13th as well. Linda also shared that items for our "College Snack" packages are being collected and will be sent out either May 1st or 3rd. She also shared that CTS has been invited to participate in a Baptist Church activity entitled to the "Norfolk Community with Love". Supposedly, this is on their website and we have participated in the past. The Board of Spiritual Oversight also approved \$600 be sent to Charlie Skoglund as a member of the Tanzania Mission Trip since he was not included in the original allocation from the Mission Fund. (The motion was made by Linda, seconded by Doug with approval by the full Board)

Deb shared that the last WNA meal will be on May 23rd. The Second quarter potluck will be held on May 6th in conjunction with Joe Rystrom's visit. June 30th will be the "Boomfest" get together- more information will be forthcoming. CTS will be participating in the 4th of July parade, May baskets are being prepared, Flowers for Mother's Day, and something special for Father's Day is being planned as well.

Steve shared that Ten Faith Chests have been stained and assembled for use with the Stepping Stones program at CTS.

Brian shared that there are several activities scheduled in the near future to help offset Tanzania expenditures. Please pay attention to the church newsletters and bulletins for more information.

Doug closed the meeting with prayer.

The Board of Spiritual Oversight will meet again on May 15th beginning at 6:30 p.m.

2018 Income & Expenses		
	April	YTD
Income		
Member Offerings	17,141.17	60,725.40
Non Member Offering	335.00	1,020.00
Coffee Hour Donations	30.30	172.10
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)	463.50	1,220.04
Designated Church Property	600.00	1,500.00
Designated Memorials	165.00	2,305.00
Designated Missions	535.00	1,245.00
Designated A Cyboron	50.00	220.00
Designated B Cyboron	50.00	200.00
Designated Weich	-	20.00
Designated Day Care/income	5,611.70	19,074.20
Designated Good Samaritan	50.00	200.00
Designated Tanzania & Travel	-	5,074.00
Total	25,031.67	92,975.74
Interest Income	2.75	11.07
Total	25,034.42	92,986.81
Expenses		
Administration	8,415.58	36,478.44
Church Building	2,912.72	13,884.76
Parsonage	318.66	1,429.63
Discipleship	49.99	788.97
Fellowship/Evangelism	203.60	767.87
Church Mission Giving	1,200.00	5,300.00
Local Benevolence	360.62	1,297.98
Worship	70.95	1,253.56
Misc (WNA, books, flowers, reimburse)	191.76	722.36
Day Care	5,755.66	22,537.59
Total	19,479.54	84,461.16
Income Statement		
General Income	18,787.72	67,028.61
Less General Expenses	13,723.88	61,923.57
Church General Income	5,063.84	5,105.04
Day Care Income	5,611.70	19,074.20
Less Day Care Expenses	5,755.66	22,537.59
Net Day care Income	(143.96)	(3,463.39)
Net Church Total Income	4,919.88	1,641.65
Day Care Income & Expenses		
Income		
Donations & Grants		3,100.00
Other (private fees)	2,535.02	7,543.92
State Reimbursement(fees & food)	3,076.68	8,430.28
Total Income	5,611.70	19,074.20
Expenses		
Payroll Wages	4,692.99	18,784.47
FICA Expense	355.77	1,427.30
Food & Supplies	619.50	1,851.00
Training		50.00
Other	87.40	424.82
Total Expenses	5,755.66	22,537.59
Day Care Net Income	(143.96)	(3,463.39)

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>SUMMER SCHEDULE</u> Adult Sunday school meets at 9:00 in June, 8:30 in July and August</p>					1 5:30 G. scouts	2 6:00 Rescue Mission picnic
3 <i>Pentecost 2</i> 10:00 worship Annual mtg. Mission-ministry	4	5 9:30 stewardship 5:30 childcare 6:30 WCTS	6 6:30 worship 7:30 youth group	7 9:00 quilting	8	9 9:00 WCTS annual meeting
10 <i>Pentecost 3</i> 10:00 worship Potluck	11 5:30 hospitality 6:00 Ultreya	12	13 6:30 worship 7:30 youth group	14 9:00 Agape	15 5:30 G. scouts <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	16
===== CONFIRMATION CAMP =====						
17 <i>Pentecost 4</i> 10:00 worship First Communion milestone Fellowship	18 6:30 Board of Administration	19 6:30 Spiritual Oversight	20 6:30 worship 7:30 youth group	21 2:00 card club	22	23
24 <i>Pentecost 5</i> 10:00 worship Fellowship	25 7:00 Ultreya	26 7:00 Worship committee	27 6:30 worship 7:30 youth group	28	29	30
=====DAY CAMP 9 a.m.-2 p.m.=====						

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

6/1 Doreen Kullbom	6/14 Wendell & Wanda Muhs
6/5 Sharel Olson	6/15 Dennis & Linda Miller
6/6 BJ & Sharon Koeppe	6/15 Emily Svitak
6/11 Steve & Mary Lund	6/18 Darla Jessen
6/11 Jaiden Roberts	6/20 Chuck & Jeanne Nicholson
6/14 Gary Weich	6/25 Orlene North